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DEPARTMENT OF AGING
Choice, Independence and Dignity for Older Marylanders

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department of Aging Staff Travel to Crisfield to Aid Seniors Affected by Superstorm Sandy

BALTIMORE, MD (December 18, 2012) – Staff members from the Maryland Department of Aging (MDoA) will assist in distributing meals and household necessities to older Marylanders in the town of Crisfield on Tuesday to counter the intermittent relief effort on behalf of victims of Superstorm Sandy. While most of the estimated \$37 billion in damage caused by Sandy occurred in states north of Maryland, the Eastern Shore was nevertheless hit hard and services many homebound seniors depend upon have been interrupted. Volunteers from MDoA will target mostly homebound seniors, recipients of home-delivered meals and those in need of hygiene and cleaning supplies, which often can be expensive additions to a fixed income.

“The Department of Aging staff felt compelled to act when we saw lives lost and the destruction of property on the scale that Sandy caused,” said Gloria Lawlah, Secretary of the Department of Aging. “Through our regular interaction with seniors across the State, we knew that there were those who must be hungry or cold or in need of the kinds of household items that we take for granted.”

In addition to food and blankets, Department of Aging employees donated personal hygiene and household cleaning products that seniors often list among the most expensive items of their budgets. The products were dispensed with the help of Peggy Bradford, executive director of Maintaining Active Citizens, Inc., and Sheree Marshall, Executive Director of the Commission on Aging in Somerset County.

Crisfield is a waterside community in Somerset County, on Maryland’s Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay. Known as the “Seafood Capital of the World” because of its historical prominence in the region’s bustling seafood industry, Crisfield is the southernmost city in the State.

For updated information, visit the Department of Aging’s website at www.aging.maryland.gov and its Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/MarylandDepartmentofAging.

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